

Dóchas Wednesday's News

Issue 48 – 29 November 2006

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What's new on the Dóchas Website:

1st December is World AIDS Day: Time to Keep the promise:

http://www.dochas.ie/worldsaids_day06.htm



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A. Forthcoming Dóchas Meetings & Events

- (1) **Joint Dóchas/Banúlacht Round Table on Gender and the White Paper on Irish Aid: 30 November**, 3.00 – 5.00 p.m. in the Temple Bar Hotel, Fleet Street, Dublin 2. The purpose of the meeting is to review the approach to gender in the White Paper and to reflect on the opportunities and challenges for Irish development NGOs to engage with Irish Aid on the implementation of its 2004 Gender Policy. Speakers: Mary Rusimbi, Tanzania Gender Network Programme, Eamonn Casey, Policy Officer, Dóchas, Maeve Taylor, Policy and Training Project Leader, Banúlacht and a representative from the Dóchas HIV/AIDS Working Group. **Please RSVP to anna@dochas.ie by Monday 27 November.**

- (2) **Lunch, Listen and Learn: An easily digested introduction to development and the EU** - Trying to get a handle on what's happening in the EU on development issues, and what the European NGO sector is concerned about? Wondering what EU affairs mean for Irish development NGOs, and why you should care? Then come along to The Claddagh Suite, Cassidy's Hotel, Cavendish Row, Dublin 1 (opposite The Gate Theatre) between 1.00 – 3.00 p.m. on **1 December (tea/coffee and sandwiches provided)**. The session will particularly focus on opportunities for Irish NGOs to get involved in EU advocacy and policy issues in the next two years. **Please RSVP to anna@dochas.ie, by 28th November – thank you! Participation open to Dochas members only.**
- (3) **Dóchas Christmas Reception:** Friday, **15 December** from 5.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m. in The Liberties Suite, Brooks Hotel, Drury Street, Dublin 2. Join us for Christmas drinks and light refreshments. All Dóchas members and partners welcome!. **Please RSVP to anna@dochas.ie, by 5th December – thank you!**
- (4) **Launch of Code of Conduct on Images and Message:** Friday, **15 December** at 6.00 p.m. in The Liberties Suite, Brooks Hotel, Drury Street, Dublin 2. Further details will issue in due course.
- (5) The next meeting of the **Dóchas Food Security & Livelihoods working Group** will take place on **11 January 2007** at 10.00 a.m. in the Dóchas office. **Participation open to Dochas members only.**

For further information on the above please contact the Dóchas office, Tel: 01 4053801, Email: anna@dochas.ie.

B. Meetings, Seminars, Conferences & Workshops

- (1) **Amnesty International Public Meeting on Mental Health: 29 November** from 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. in the Edmund Burke Theatre, Trinity College Dublin. During the meeting Amnesty will present an outline of its new Mental Health Lobbying Network (if you would like to join the network please contact Amnesty or send an email to mentalhealth@amnesty.ie) and invite public input on issues of concern on mental health services. They are also looking for suggestions on how this lobbying network should operate and what issues should be raised. Further information from Karol Balfe, T: 01 6776361, E: info@amnesty.ie.
- (2) **Banulacht AGM and public meeting** on the theme of **How can advocacy in Ireland benefit women in the South?: 30 November** at 7.30 p.m. in Temple Bar Hotel, Fleet Street, Dublin 2. Speakers: Mary Rusimbi is Executive Director of Tanzania Gender Networking Programme and has a background in community education, gender, research, policy analysis and advocacy. Further information available from Banulacht, T: 01 8197833, E: banulach@iol.ie.
- (3) **Living with a Charity Regulator – Learning from the UK Experience of Regulation** is the theme of a seminar to take place on **30 November** from 9.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. in the Carmelite Community Centre, Aungier Street, Dublin 2. Experienced personnel from the English National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and the Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) to present their experiences of working in a regulated environment and issues that they have addressed with the regulators. Their reports will be of use to participants in beginning to think about charity regulation and how it might affect their organisation. The session will also include an overview of the General Scheme for the Charities Regulation Bill 2006 and a briefing on the recently published Northern Irish Charities Regulation Order. If you wish to register for the event please contact The Wheel, T: 01 4548727, E: register@wheel.ie.
- (4) **1 December is World AIDS Day.** The date is marked by a wide range of organisations, both working domestically and internationally. **For further details on planned events please see section F (5) below.**

- (5) **Poverty Reduction and Social Protection in Moldova: How to achieve the Millennium Development Goals** is the theme of a seminar, organised by the Institute of European Affairs, to be held on **4 December** at 11.30 a.m. in the Institute of European Affairs, Europe House, 8 North Great Georges Street, Dublin 1. The keynote address will be given by Zinaida Grecianii, First Deputy Prime Minister of Moldova. As one of the least developed countries in Europe Moldova faces unique challenges in achieving its targets in the MDGs. Ms Grecianii will look at the achievements and challenges involved in the economic and social progress of Moldova. Further information available from Donal Quinn, E: donal.quinn@ieea.com, T: 01 8746756.
- (6) **Comhlámh's Volunteering Options Programme** invites you to an event celebrating **International Volunteer Day** on **5 December** from 3.00 – 5.00 p.m. in Iveagh House, 80 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. The event will include the launch by Mr Conor Lenihan, Minister of State for Development Cooperation and Human Rights, of the Volunteer Charter for international volunteers. The launch will be followed by a seminar, featuring a series of presentations from projects that host international volunteers and from returned volunteers. Please RSVP to Siobhan@comhlamh.org, T: 01 4783490.
- (7) **Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in Ireland:** As part of the Irish Council for Civil Liberties' 30th Anniversary celebrations, the organisation will be hosting a major international conference on the contribution of civil society to the promotion and protection of human rights in Ireland. The event will be held on **5 December** in Dublin Castle. Full details available from Dawn Quinn, Administrator, Irish Council for Civil Liberties, 9-13 Blackhall Place, Dublin 7, T: 01 7994504, E: dawn.quinn@iccl.ie/info@iccl.ie.
- (8) **Managing and Identifying Risk in community and Voluntary Organisations: 5 December** from 7.45 – 9.15 a.m. in the Mercer Hotel, Dublin 2. This breakfast briefing will examine the area of risk, how it affects community and voluntary organisations and how these risks can be managed. It is also an opportunity to come together, network with peers, share experiences and listen to two experts and their learnings on managing and identifying risk, one from a theoretical perspective and the other more practical. For further information or to register please go to <http://www.wheel.ie/user/content/view/full/3342> or contact The Wheel on 01 4548727.
- (9) **Irish Development Education Association AGM: 6 December** at the National Library, Kildare Street, Dublin 1, from 9.30 a.m. – 2.30 p.m. The following will be among the items under discussion: Activity Report, Treasurer's Report, Motions/amendments to constitution, Elections to National Council and election of officers. Further information available from idea@ireland.com.
- (10) **Comhlámh First Wednesday Debates:** A series of debates on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:15 - 7:45 at Bewley's Café Theatre (Grafton Street). Come along, get involved or just find out about the various issues while meeting people over a cuppa! Debates will take place on the following dates over the coming months:

December 6 - **Corruption: to aid or not to aid governments... is this the question?**

January 3 - **Short term volunteering: in whose interest?**

February 7 - **Has Make Poverty History passed its sell by date?**

March 7- **HIV/AIDS in the spotlight... but is it working?**

April 4 - **China in Africa: more of the same or a new pathway for development?**

All welcome! No reservations needed! Early arrival advised. Spaces available on a first-come first-serve basis. Details on Comhlámh's website and e-LINK newsletter: www.comhlamh.org. Further information at 478-3490. This event is partly funded by Irish Aid.

- (11) **West Papua Action AGM: 10 December** at 2.00 p.m. in the Central Hotel, Exchequer Street. Participants will have an opportunity to liaise with human rights defenders in West Papua and to discuss next year's strategy. Light refreshments will be served after the meeting. All welcome. Further information from Marzia Baldassari, T: 01 8603431, E: wpaction@iol.ie.

- (12) **INTRAC** will host a conference on **Civil Society & Capacity Building** from **11-13 December** in Oxford, UK. Full details are available at <http://www.intrac.org/pages/CBconference.html> or from Gabriela Guzman, INTRAC Events, T: 0044 1865 263 053. E: gguzman@intrac.org.
- (13) **High Performing Organisations – a key to social change** is the theme of a conference to explore the nature of high performing organisations in the community and voluntary sector in Ireland, which will be held on **1 February** 2007 from 9.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. at Croke Park, Jones Road, Dublin 3. Key note speaker: Ian Williams, Executive Director of Concern Universal since 1998 and Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Charity Effectiveness, Cass Business School, London. Further information available from Danielle McGoldrick at Danielle@carmichaelcentre.ie.

C. Situations Vacant

- (1) **VSO seeks Volunteer Placement Adviser** to match and support volunteers before, during and after their overseas volunteer placements. This is a full-time permanent position based in Dublin. The successful candidate will be mainly responsible for liaising and supporting volunteers throughout their journey. Main duties will include reviewing applications, organising assessment events, matching volunteers to placements, communicating with volunteers overseas, coordinating the resettlement of returning volunteers, as well as managing day-to-day enquiries and office duties. As a member of the VSO Ireland team, this role will involve supporting and contributing to the marketing and promotion of VSO as an Irish NGO. In addition s/he will be a member of the international VPA teams and will liaise regularly with overseas programme offices. Ideal candidates will have a development background, preferably having lived in a developing country for a period of time, and have strong organisational skills. For a full job description please contact VSO, Carmichael Centre, Brunswick Street North, Dublin 7, T: 01 8727173, E: info@vso.ie, W: www.vso.ie. **Closing date: Mid-day, 1 December.**
- (2) **Amnesty International Irish Section** has two exciting vacancies at **leadership level** as members of the Directorate, reporting to the Executive Director:
- The **Programme Director** will manage the Section's programmes through the development and delivery of an integrated strategic approach to campaigns, activism, communications, education, research and lobbying work.
 - The **Operations Director** will manage the Section's operations through the development and delivery of an integrated strategic approach to all areas of the Section's finance, fundraising, human resources, trading, office, and information technology work.

As members of the Directorate, the post holders will be expected to provide strong management and co-ordination across respective areas and to lead the development and implementation of the Section's strategic and operational plans as well as the relevant financial management and budget control functions.

Full details of these positions are available on www.amnesty.ie. Qualified applicants should send a CV and cover letter to Sara Bennett, Human Resources Officer, at positions@amnesty.ie. **Closing date: 12 noon on Friday, 1 December.**

- (3) **Vacancies at Trócaire:** following the completion of its strategic framework for the period 2005-2016 Trócaire now seeks highly motivated and experienced individuals to fill a number of key posts:

Four Programme Leaders will be appointed to lead the organisation in the following programme areas:

- Mobilising for Justice
- Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Livelihoods and Environmental Justice
- HIV and Gender

Three managers will be appointed to lead teams in the following key areas:

- Fundraising and marketing Manager
- Communications Manager
- Finance Manager

Detailed job descriptions and essential requirements for each of the seven posts are available at www.trocaire.org. **The closing date for the receipt of completed applications for the above posts is 5 December.**

(4) **Gorta** seeks to recruit the following:

- **Fundraising Co-Ordinator/Manager:** The appointee will play an important part in charting the future direction of Gorta as it transforms itself to meet the challenges of the developing world, and in particular, supporting the achievement of the UN's Millennium Development Goals by 2015. For someone with a passion for making a difference, this position could be the perfect career opportunity.

This is a new post, so the successful applicant will have the opportunity to shape and direct the role towards the most effective fundraising methods and opportunities. With the empathy that exists for Gorta's work among the world's poorest, there is enormous potential to secure support from a wide range of prospective donors. We want to hear your ideas and suggestions on fundraising and we expect the successful appointee to be tenacious and innovative (and a track record to prove it!) in engaging that broad spectrum of fundraising and fund development opportunities that exist ranging from individuals and families to corporates, trusts and foundations, as well as the public sector – primarily in Ireland, but also in the UK. (The appointee will be located at Gorta's Dublin office). Also, we want to achieve our fundraising objectives in a manner that maintains Gorta's reputation for aggressively managing costs – so that we can ensure the money you raise is put to the best possible use among the world's poorest communities.

The appointee is likely to have: Three to five years experience of a broad range of fundraising and fund development activity, with an excellent results oriented track record; Excellent research, analytical, communication and influencing skills; Be a motivated self starter, demonstrating initiative and drive with an ability to both plan and think strategically as well as being able to respond rapidly to tactical situations and "ad hoc" opportunities; Be able to build strong, effective relationships with the Gorta board, staff and volunteers throughout the country, adding real momentum to Gorta's fundraising; A proven ability to network from grass roots top management – both inside and (especially) outside the organisation; A meticulous approach to managing contact data; financial records; costs and regulatory requirements; Ideally, a fundraising and/or marketing or business qualification; Proficiency in the use of MS Office applications; A full, clean driving licence and their own transport.

- **Programme Officer:** The appointee will play an important part in charting the future direction of Gorta as it transforms itself to meet the challenges of the developing world, and in particular, supporting the achievement of the UN's Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

The role will entail: developing, actively managing and evaluating programmes which Gorta undertakes in its field of operations, principally in Sub-Saharan Africa in liaison with field staff including those operating out of Ireland; contributing to the growth, development and success of Gorta's work in some of the world's poorest countries.

Key duties: Participating in a Strategies and Operational Review – currently underway – which will include an evaluation of Gorta’s Projects & Programme policy – leading to the development of a revised Strategic Plan; Manage and further develop Gorta’s programmes portfolio; manage relationship & application process when seeking funding from Irish Aid, DFID and other major Public and Private sources of Programme Funding; Manage/coordinate programme activities in the field; Regularly review the effectiveness of systems for the monitoring and evaluation of all programme activity from inception to completion. Proper maintenance of project and financial records in conjunction with other staff and Projects/Programmes Committee and in accordance with best practice; Contributing to all relevant aspects of Gorta’s work and ensuring the successful implementation of the organisation’s Strategic Plan; Represent Gorta at key for a in Ireland and abroad as required by the CEO.

Key Requirements: Applicants for this position are likely to already hold the position of Programme Coordinator/Country Manager (or similar position); They should have a minimum of 3-5 years management level experience working in a number of countries, ideally in Sub-Saharan Africa; They should hold a range of skills and qualifications appropriate to the position and Gorta’s focus on providing sustainable solutions to challenges relating to food security; water management; education; healthcare and micro-enterprise; Applicants should have strong leadership, project management and interpersonal skills and experience of dealing with partners (including major donors) both in Ireland and abroad. The position demands a persistent, yet patient and innovative approach to problem solving and an ability to train, mentor and motivate staff and partner communities in the field ; Applicants should have proven experience in sourcing funds for programmes from major public and private sources; implementation of such programmes and the ongoing monitoring, supporting and evaluation of same as required by Gorta and its donor partners; Applicants should be self-starters who will be required to spend part of the year working at Gorta field operations. They should be equally comfortable working on their own, or as part of a team; Applicants should have experience of liaising with statutory and voluntary organisations and other prospective donors – and have a deep understanding of, and interest in development issues; Applicants should be familiar with MS Office and Project Management software, and hold a full, clean driving licence.

If you are interested in applying for either of the above positions please send your CV and a covering letter outlining the reasons you are interested in the position to hr@gorta.ie, Fax: 01 6612627. Further information available from Gorta at 01 6615522. **Closing date for both positions: 8 December.**

- (5) **Trócaire seeks EU Policy and Advocacy Officer** to work on EU development policy issues as part of Trócaire’s Policy & Advocacy Unit (PAU), which is based in the organisation’s headquarters, Maynooth, Co Kildare, Ireland. The Policy and Advocacy Officer will be expected to carry out effective policy analysis and advocacy on Ireland’s engagement with and impact on EU Development Policy, with a particular focus on EU policy coherence and quality of EU aid.

The role involves working as part of a global advocacy team in Maynooth, as well as with Trócaire staff and partner organisations located in several Southern countries. The Policy and Advocacy Officer will be expected to represent Trócaire at a high level in Ireland, Europe and Internationally.

The successful candidate will be experienced in policy and advocacy on the EU’s role in development. They will have outstanding analytic and communication skills and a clear commitment to Trócaire’s work for global justice.

To fulfil this role it is essential that you meet the following criteria: Relevant third level qualification; A proven track record in policy analysis, research and advocacy on EU development policy; Significant experience of working directly with Southern and Northern NGOs in a policy & advocacy role; Excellent communication skills; Ability to fulfil the travelling requirements associated with this position.

If you are interested in this position please forward your DV and cover letter (quoting reference Number: 03/CD/009/G) to: Eileen Ryan, Head of Human Resources and Finance, Trócaire, Maynooth, Co Kildare, T: 01 5053237, E: hr@trocarie.ie, Fax: 6290664. To download a full job description please visit www.trocaire.org. **Closing date: 15 December.**

D. Courses & Training

- (1) The following courses, organised under **Dtalk** – Development Training & Learning @ Kimmage will take place over the coming months:

December:

- **Initial Preparation:** 4-8
- **Mainstreaming HIV in Humanitarian Contexts:** 5-6
- **How to Think Strategically:** 7-8
- **How to be a successful trainer:** 11-14
- **Leadership and Team Building:** 14-15

All of the above courses will take place in the Development Studies Centre, Kimmage. To register for any course please contact: James Morton, Dtalk Administrator, T: 01 4064307, E: James.Morton@dsckim.ie; Patricia Wall, Dtalk Coordinator, T: 01 4064424, E: Patricia.Wall@dsckim.ie; Dtalk-Development Training and Learning @ Kimmage, Development Studies Centre, Kimmage Manor, Whitehall Road, Dublin 12, F: 01 4064388, www.dtalk.ie.

- (2) **Carmichael Centre Training courses:**

- **Board Members Managing Staff,** 30 November (Cork)
- **Occupational First Aid,** 5-7 December (Dublin)
- **Tapping into new Philanthropy:** 13 December (Dublin)

For further details on these and all of our courses, you can access our website at www.carmichaelcentre.ie. To reserve a place, please download the booking form or contact Danielle at danielle@carmichaelcentre.ie, T: 01 8735282.

- (3) **Employment Law for Small Business: 5 December** from 9.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. at the Moran Red Cow Hotel. Learn how to meet your obligations as an Employer – organised by ISME Training, this course will provide excellent practical advice on employment law requirements and tips on compliance that you can put into effect immediately. The course will cover: Update on new legislation, employment contracts, grievance and disciplinary procedures, bullying and harassment. Further details available from ISME, E: liz@isme.ie, W: www.isme.ie or T: 01 6622755.
- (4) EU-Funded **Regional Training Workshop, Making PRSP Inclusive**, 7 - 8 December, Berlin. CBM Germany is inviting the relevant stakeholders to participate in this workshop to discuss options of mainstreaming disability in PRSP. Please contact Rika at Rika.Esser@cbm-i.org or Brenda at Brendac@cbm.ie for more information.
- (5) **BOND Training on applying for EU Funding under the 2006 Calls for Proposals:** London. PVD Projects: 7-8 December. Development Education Projects: 15-18 December. Further information available from BOND, T: 004420 7 8378344, E: lgoulel@bond.org.uk, W: www.bond.org.uk.
- (6) **The Fritz Certification in Humanitarian Logistics** was launched in September and is aimed at those working (or who can realistically aspire to work) within humanitarian aid organisations in supply chain functions, typically involving warehousing, transport or inventory. The modular program covers: Humanitarian Supply Chains; Managing a Humanitarian Supply Chain Response; Transport; Procurement; Warehouse and Inventory; Fleet Management; and Import Export.

The distance learning approach is ideal as the student can work anywhere in the world – all that is needed is access to email. A key objective of the qualification is to build local capacity by providing people in the field convenient access to logistics training enabling them to become more effective and empowered as they integrate the learning into their working routine.

Further information available from www.hy-techlogistics.ie, E: humanitariancert@hy-techlogistics.ie or by contacting David Burke at Hy-techlogistics on T: 01 8604890.

E. Other Information

(1) **The Simon Cumbers Media Challenge Fund** is a funding scheme aimed at assisting and promoting more and better quality media coverage of development issues in the Irish media. There are two grant types:

- **Standard Grants:** applications will be accepted from local/national community radio stations, independent radio producers, photographers and photo journalists, freelance and staff journalists, newspapers, and new media producers. **Closing date for applications: 5.00 p.m. on 15 January 2007.**
- **TV Production Seed Grants:** applications will be accepted from independent production companies, directors, producers and broadcasters. Joint applications and partnerships are encouraged. **Closing date for applications: 5.00 p.m. on 1 March 2007.**

Connect-World is administering this Fund on behalf of Irish Aid and **will host workshops on 30 November on how to prepare an application under the scheme.** The workshops will introduce participants to a range of development issues and provide further information on how to make an application for funding. Further details are available at www.connect-world.net or from Lorraine Whitty, T: 01 4806222, E: mediafund@connect-world.net.

(2) **Amnesty International Christmas Greeting Card Campaign:** Each year Amnesty invites you to send messages of support and solidarity to victims of human rights violations. We provide you with the cases and you send the message. The Campaign allows people to make a difference on a personal level. Just one card can show people that they are not alone, that they haven't been forgotten by the world outside, and above all, that someone knows what is happening to them and cares about it. These cards allow us to express our solidarity with the people who are on the front line of the fight for human rights, and who are suffering because of this fight. Please join us in sending a message to these courageous people. For a Greeting Cards Campaign Pack please contact info@amnesty.ie or call 01 6776361.

(3) **Trees for Life** is a new and **novel gift scheme** whereby you can buy a unique and rewarding gift for any occasion such as Christmas, Birthday's and Weddings and at the same time give the gift of life to families in Eritrea and Ethiopia. For €100 an Oak Tree will be planted in your chosen recipients name in Marley Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16.

Each tree will be numbered and the number will be entered into a register with both the giver and the recipients' name and a personalised gift card with details of where the tree can be seen will be available for you to give to the recipient.

And the really great news is that for every oak tree you buy approximately 35 Moringa Trees will be planted in Eritrea and Ethiopia. Your gift will thus have a huge and lasting impact on the lives of many families struggling to cope with starvation.

The Moringa or Miracle Tree is one of the keys to ending hunger and malnutrition in many parts of the world affected by poverty, drought, disease and starvation. It is widely hailed as the world's most useful tree. Every single part of it can be used for fuel, food and medicine. The ownership of one of these trees really can make an enormous difference to a family's livelihood. *So go on – be different and make a lasting change to a family's life!*

If you would like to give the gift of a Tree for Life or require further information please contact Jenny Douglas at **Vita**, T: 01 8820108, E: jenny.douglas@vita.ie

F. Forthcoming Events, etc

- (1) **Every Time I See the Sea – life after the tsunami** is the theme of an exhibition which will run from **now until 20 December** in 21 Lavitt's Quay gallery, Cork. This remarkable **Christian Aid Ireland** exhibition remembers the Asian tsunami and tells how lives are being restored after the worst natural disaster in living memory, taking us back to the moment the tsunami struck the countries of the Indian Ocean, killing up to 250,000 people in just a few hours.

Photographer Tim Hetherington and ceramic artist Emma Summers visited parts of Sri Lanka and India most devastated by the tsunami to witness the challenge of rebuilding. Their work captures the remarkable stories of hope that have emerged from the disaster, as well as the magnitude of the challenge.

Their stunning work will feature alongside Jakarta-based photographer Jonathan Perugia's collection of black-and-white portraits of the missing in Indonesia. Also featured are sculpture, film and personal artefacts from Christian Aid partner organisations – many of them at the heart of the emergency response – in Sri Lanka, Indonesia and India.

Visitors will be able to discover what has happened on the ground since the tsunami struck and discover how money raised from the Irish public has been spent through Christian Aid partners. Log on to www.christian-aid.ie for further information.

- (2) There's not long to go till the **Concern FAST** on Thursday, **30 November**, if you would like to save lives FAST you can do one of the following: Log on to www.concernfast.org and click on Take Part; Text FAST to 51500; Call 1850 50 50 55. Please sign up for FAST 2006 today and help Concern continue its development and emergency work in some of the poorest communities in the world.
- (3) **AkiDwa and Africa Centre** invite you to attend an **evening of glamour and entertainment to raise funds for their work**. The dinner will be held on **30 November** from 8.00 p.m. till late at the Royal Dublin Hotel, O'Connell Street, Dublin 1. Tickets: €100 per person or €900 for table of ten. Further information available from the Africa Centre, T: 01 8656951, E: info@africacente.ie, or AkiDwa, T: 01 8148582, E: info@akidwa.ie.
- (4) Bookings for the December 2006, **Coming Home Weekend for Returned Development Workers** (RDWs) are now open. To reserve your place please email marietherese@comhlamh.org. The weekend will be in Dublin from **1-3 December**. **Places limited so early booking advisable**. For details on this event or any other services for RDWs please contact Marie Therese at Comhlámh, T: 01-4783490.
- (5) **Events to mark World AIDS Day 2006:**



BANG ON 2 World AIDS Day: This production, devised by *Dalliance*, opened on 28 November at Liberty Hall Theatre and includes performances on **29, 30 November** and **1 December** at 8.00 p.m. and on **2 December** at 2.00 p.m. – this matinee is aimed at young people and will be

followed by a forum discussion – in collaboration with the National Youth Council of Ireland. Supported by Concern and Dublin AIDS Alliance. Tickets: €5 (waged), €3 (unwaged) available from Liberty Hall Ticket Bureau, T: 01 8721122. Further information available from Breda Gahan, Concern, E: breda.gahan@concern.ie or from Ann Nolan, Dublin AIDS Alliance, E: ann.nolan@dublinaid्सalliance.com. For matinee performance on 2nd December please contact Johnny Sheehan at NYCI, E: Johnny@nyci.ie.



30 November – RTE 1 will screen '**A Missing Generation – AIDS in Africa**' – a documentary on the pandemic and the Rose Project's response at 10.15 p.m.



The following events, organised by The Rose Project, will take place on **1 December**:

- ✓ 10.30 am: President McAleese will unveil the Rose Project Sculpture by Sandra Bell in St Stephen's Green, Dublin. This project has been sponsored by D2 Private.
- ✓ 12 noon: A civic reception will take place in the Mansion House with The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor Vincent Jackson.
- ✓ 4.00 pm: President of UCD, Hugh Brady and Mary Donohoe (The Rose Project) will host the first World AIDS Day candlelight vigil on campus in UCD.
- ✓ 6.00 pm: the official opening of the Rose Project.

Further details available from Mary Donohoe, Chairperson, The Rose Project, E: donohoemary@eircom.net.



1st December: Gort Community College will form a **human red ribbon** to mark **World AIDS Day** on **1 December**. The students are asking their classmates to become a 'living breathing part' of their Human RED Ribbon. They hope that through their active participation in this project they will gain a better understanding and awareness of the issues surrounding HIV and AIDS, both in Ireland and around the globe.



Irish Aid will hold a seminar on the theme '**The Feminisation of HIV/AIDS and the Response of the United Nations**' in conference room 1, Irish Aid, Bishops Square, Redmond's Hill, Dublin 2, on **1 December** from 2.30 – 4.00 p.m. Speakers will include Stephen Lewis, United Nations Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Africa. **If you are interested in attending this event please email anna@dochas.ie immediately.**



The Department of Foreign Affairs/Irish Aid will host the *Professor Michael J Kelly Inaugural Lecture on HIV/AIDS, focussing* on the theme '**Fighting HIV related Stigma and Discrimination**' on **1 December** from 6.00 – 8.00 p.m. in The Meeting Room, Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson Street, Dublin 2. Guest Speakers: Stephen Lewis, UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa; and Professor Michael J Kelly, University of Zambia. **If you are interested in attending this event please email anna@dochas.ie immediately.**



H E Priscilla Jana, The South African Ambassador to Ireland, will host **Ireland's First World AIDS Day Concert** in Powerscourt Town House Centre, South William Street, Dublin 2, on **1 December** from 7.30 – 10.30 p.m. Come along for light refreshments and join with us and a host of artists and celebrities in...Keeping the promise and helping the world I the fight against AIDS. All Welcome.

- (6) **GOAL drop-in day: 2 December** from 10.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. at The Holiday Inn, 107 Pearse Street Dublin 2. The purpose of the day is to enable people to learn more about GOAL's work in the developing world and crucially, how they can get involved. GOAL is especially keen to hear from doctors, nurses, nutritionists, engineers, accountants, project managers, logisticians and those with previous overseas development experience. However, the organisation has a wide range of

opportunities, and anyone who is interested in working overseas is welcome to attend to learn more about the sector. Please indicate your intention to attend by emailing Zelie@goal.ie. For more information on GOAL please visit www.goal.ie.

- (7) **Concert** in aid of **Self Help Development International, 2 December** at the Honan Chapel, UCC, Cork. The programme will feature: Moya O'Grady, *Cello*, Geraldine O'Doherty, *Harp*, David O'Doherty, *Violin*, and will include music by Elgar, Saint-Saens, Ravel, Debussy, Massenet. Tickets cost 15 and €12 (concession) and are available from the UCC Staff Common Room, Pro Musica and at the door.
- (8) **Viatores Christi** is an Irish Catholic lay missionary association which was founded in 1960. We recruit, prepare and facilitate the placement of lay volunteers who wish to serve in areas of need, mainly in the developing world.

Viatores Christi are organising a series of **information seminars** at the following locations:

Dublin: 2 December (11am to 4pm) at our headquarters, 38/39 Upper Gardiner Street, Dublin 1.
Belfast: 2 December (2.30pm-4.30pm) at St. Michael the Archangel Parish Centre, Finaghy Road North, Belfast BT11 9EH
Cork: 5 December (7.30pm-9.30pm) at SMA Parish Centre, Wilton. Cork
Galway: 5 December (8pm – 10pm) at Arus de Brun Pastoral Centre, Newtownsmith, Galway
Maynooth: 6 December (7.30pm – 9.30pm) at Divine Word Missionaries, Moyglare Road, Maynooth
Donegal: 11 December (8pm-10pm) St. Mary's Parish Centre, Stranorlar, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal

If you wish to attend please email info@viatoreschristi.com or call us on 01 874 9346 /01 872 8027.

- (9) **International Volunteers Day 2006 – 5 December** – For details of planned events please visit <http://www.volunteeringireland.ie/page.php?id=71>.
- (10) To mark **International Volunteer Day** on **5 December**, **Comhlámh** is organising a **Social Event** for returned volunteers, missionaries and development workers. This event will take place at the Irish Architectural Archive, Merrion Square, Dublin 2. Further information available from Siobhan, E: Siobhan@comhlamh.org, or Dervla, E: Dervla@comhlamh.org, T: 01 4783490.
- (11) **Temple Bar Ethical & Fairtrade Christmas Market: 16-17 December** in the main hall at the Cultivate Centre (SS Michael & John's Church), Essex Street West, Temple Bar, from 10.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. There will be a number of Fairtrade and ethical product stall-holders in Cultivate's spectacular hall over the two days. The market will be enhanced with a Green Santa grotto, Fairtrade information, live music and a small café all creating a very sustainable festive atmosphere. The cost of a stall starts at €50 for a 2m x 1.5 m pitch. Further information available from davie@cultivate.ie, T: 01 6746396.

Wednesday's News is distributed by email on a weekly basis. If there is anything you would like to include in the next issue please send the required information to anna@dochas.ie by Tuesday, 5 December 2006.

If you would like to receive Wednesday's News by email on a weekly basis please email anna@dochas.ie and we will be delighted to add your name to the list. Wednesday's News is also available at www.dochas.ie.

Thank you.